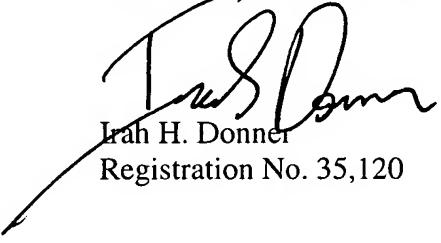


AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Amendment, or credit any overpayment to deposit account no. 08-0219. In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to deposit account no. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,
HALE AND DORR LLP



Irah H. Donner
Registration No. 35,120

1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004-1008

(202) 942-8400

Date: 2/20/02

IHD/sed

Appendix A

(marked-up copy of amended specification)

Please amend page 1 of the specification as follows:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a Continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/277,776, filed on March 29, 1999, which in turn claims priority from U.S. Provisional application number 60/100,863, filed on September 17, 1998, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.